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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re application of

EDGAR R. ZUNIGA-ORTIZ ET AL.

Serial No. 10/769,699 (TI-33535.1)

Filed March 2, 2004

For: BUMPERLESS WAFER SCALE DEVICE AND BOARD ASSEMBLY

Art Unit 2814

Examiner Hoai V. Pham

Customer No. 23494

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REPLY BRIEF

In reply to the Examiner's Answer, it is again noted that the rejection of claims 27, 28, 30 and 32 is based upon 35 U.S.C. 102(e), thereby requiring that each and every feature of each of these claims be found in Yamazaki et al. This is not the case.

Referring to the Examiner Answer and with reference to claim 31, it is stated that the feature of "providing a semiconductor chip having a planar active surface including an integrated circuit" is found in Yamazaki et al. at (220). However, nowhere in Yamazaki et al. is this to be found. Element 220 of Yamazaki et al. is stated to be a substrate as stated at column 10, line 52. A substrate is not necessarily an integrated circuit and Yamazaki et al. does not state that element 220 is an integrated circuit.

With reference to the feature “providing a protective overcoat over said planar active surface, said protective overcoat including windows exposing said at least one contact pads, said window having sidewalls” there is no showing in Yamazaki et al. that the region 220 is a “planar active surface” of the type required by the prior section of claim 31.

With reference to the feature “providing an added conductive region having at least one conductive layer on said metallization pattern covering and conformal to said at least one contact pads, said sidewalls of said windows and a portion of said protective overcoat surround said windows, said added conductive region having a planar surface, said outer surface of said added conductive region suitable to form metallurgical bonds without melting”, the layer 223 is not conformal to the at least one contact as alleged by the Examiner’s Answer. As noted in an AOL search of the term “conformal” (copy attached), the term means “having the same shape”, “leaving the size of the angle between corresponding curves unchanged”. Clearly, layer 223 of Yamazaki et al. does not have the same shape as the layer 221 as required by claim 31. Clearly, the definition of the term “conformal” is at variance with that alleged by the examiner.

Since all remaining claims depend from claim 31, these claims define patentably over the applied references for reasons presented as to claim 31 above as well as to the reasons set forth in the Substitute Brief on Appeal.

Reversal of the final rejection and allowance of the claims on appeal is urged that justice be done in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,



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Main Entry: conformal

Pronunciation: \ kən-'fôr-məl, (,)kăn- \

Function: adjective

Etymology: Late Latin *conformalis* having the same shape, from Latin *com-* + *formalis* formal, from *forma*

Date: 1893

Results

1. leaving the size of the angle between corresponding curves unchanged - *conformal* transformation
2. of a map representing small areas in their true shape

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